

CLAIMS

1. A hand-held power tool comprising:
 - a. a housing including a drive mechanism and motor provided with a rotary output shaft aligned along a tool axis;
 - 5 b. a handle portion aligned along a handle axis, the handle portion having a power activator switch mounted thereon;
 - c. a power supply end; and
 - d. a removably attachable portion releasably attachable to a portion of one of the housing or the power supply end of the hand-held power tool that is substantially
10 normal to the handle axis, the removably attachable portion comprising an object sensor and a level.
2. The hand-held power tool of claim 1 wherein the housing has at least one flange formed thereon for removably affixing the removably attachable portion to the housing.
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3. The hand-held power tool of claim 1 wherein the housing comprises outwardly projecting housing flanges and housing grooves and the removably attachable portion comprises two inwardly projecting portion flanges and portion grooves and wherein the flanges and grooves on the housing cooperate with the flanges and grooves on the
20 removably attachable portion to releasably affix the removably attachable portion to the housing.
4. The hand-held power tool of claim 1 wherein the removably attachable portion has a substantially flat bottom surface.
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5. The hand-held power tool of claim 4 wherein the level is parallel with the tool axis and the bottom surface so as to advise of the inclination of the tool axis relative to a horizontal plane.
- 30 6. The hand-held power tool of claim 1 wherein the housing contains a bull's eye bubble level in a plane essentially perpendicular to the tool axis.

7. The hand-held power tool of claim 1 wherein the hand-held power tool is a portable electric drill.

5 8. The hand-held power tool of claim 1 wherein the hand-held power tool is powered by AC electrical energy.

9. The hand-held power tool of claim 1 wherein the hand-held power tool is powered by DC electrical energy.

10 10. The hand-held power tool of claim 1 wherein the housing of the power tool comprises at least one protrusion and the removably attachable portion comprises at least one recess sized to receive the protrusion for releasably attaching the removably attachable portion.

15 11. A portable hand-held power tool comprising:

a. a housing including a drive mechanism and motor provided with a rotary output shaft aligned along a tool axis and a handle portion aligned along a handle axis, the handle portion having a power activator switch mounted thereon;

20 b. a battery attached to the housing and in electrical connection with the motor for providing electrical power to the drive motor; and

c. a removably attachable portion releasably attachable to the battery, the removably attachable portion having an object sensor and a level.

25 12. The portable hand-held power tool of claim 11 wherein the battery has at least one slot formed thereon for releasably affixing the removably attachable portion to the battery.

13. The hand-held power tool of claim 11 wherein the level is parallel with the tool axis so as to advise of the inclination of the tool axis relative to a horizontal plane.

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14. The hand-held power tool of claim 11 wherein the hand-held power tool is a portable drill.

15. A power tool comprising:

- 5 a. a housing comprising a drive mechanism and a motor;
- b. a handle portion extending from housing and aligned along a handle axis, the handle portion having a power activator switch and a power supply end;
- c. a battery engaged with the power supply end and having at least a portion of the battery extending substantially perpendicular to the handle axis; and
- 10 d. an object sensor attached to a portion of at least one of housing or the power supply end, wherein the portion is not parallel to the handle axis.

16. A hand-held power tool comprising:

- a. a housing, a drive mechanism contained within the housing,
- 15 b. a handle portion aligned along a handle axis; and
- c. a removably attachable portion removably attachable to a portion of the housing that is substantially normal to the handle axis wherein the removably attachable portion comprises an object sensor and a level.

20 17. The hand-held power tool of claim 16 wherein the hand-held power tool is a reciprocating saw.

18. The hand-held power tool of claim 16 wherein the hand-held power tool has a rotary shaft.

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19. The hand-held power tool of claim 16 wherein the hand-held power tool is powered by compressed air.

20. The hand-held power tool of claim 16 wherein the hand-held power tools is
30 powered by electrical energy.

21. The hand-held power tool of claim 16 wherein the hand-held power tool is powered by a battery.

22. The hand-held power tool of claim 16 wherein the hand-held power tool is powered by AC energy.

23. The hand-held power tool of claim 16 wherein the housing further comprises at least one flange formed thereon and the removably attachable portion containing at least one flange and wherein the flanges cooperate to releasably attach the removably attachable portion to the housing.

24. The hand-held power tool of claim 16 wherein the housing of the power tool comprises at least one protrusion and the removably attachable portion comprises at least one recess sized to receive the protrusion for releasably attaching the removably attachable portion.

25. The hand-held power tool of claim 16 wherein the housing comprises outwardly projecting housing flanges and housing grooves and the removably attachable portion comprises two inwardly projecting portion flanges and portion grooves and wherein the flanges and grooves on the housing cooperate with the flanges and grooves on the removably attachable portion to releasably affix the removably attachable portion to the housing.

26. A portable power tool comprising:

- a. a housing comprising a drive mechanism and a motor;
- b. a handle portion attached to the housing and aligned along a handle axis and having a power activator switch mounted thereon, wherein the handle has a power supply end;
- c. a battery engaged with the power supply end and having at least a portion of the battery extending substantially perpendicular to the handle axis; and,

d. an object sensor attached to a mounting surface on at least one of the housing or the power supply end that is substantially normal to the handle axis.

27. A power tool comprising:

- 5 a. a housing comprising a drive mechanism and a motor;
- b. a handle portion extending from housing and aligned along a handle axis, the handle portion having a power activator switch and a power supply end;
- c. a battery engaged with the power supply end and having at least a portion of the battery extending substantially perpendicular to the handle axis; and
- 10 d. an object sensor attached to a portion of at least one of housing or the power supply end that is nearly normal to the handle axis.